Approved For Release 2003/01/28 : CIA-RDP78B04770A002000010009-1
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IEG-168/68
19 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services & Support Group, NPIC

25X1 ATTENTION: [redacted]

SUBJECT: IEG Evaluation of the [redacted] 918 Light Table 25X1

1. The Imagery Exploitation Group has completed an evaluation of the 918 Light Table produced by [redacted] This evaluation is a result of the combined comments of six photo interpreters from the Eastern Geographic Division. The interpreters stated that it would have been desireable for the instrument to have been used in the IEG area for a more extensive test of its capabilities. 25X1

2. The design of this table, although deficient in some respects, was a distinct improvement over the 918 [redacted] Light Tables that are presently in use. 25X1

a) Those characteristics of the table that are considered desireable or at least satisfactory are:

1) Simplicity of operating controls and method of loading and unloading film.

2) Adequate speed was available during both slow and rapid, motorized scanning operations. Forward and reverse speeds were also satisfactory.

3) Low noise level of the motorized drive.

4) Little discernible heat generated by the light source.

5) Accommodation of film sizes from 70 mm to 9½ inches in width.

6) Comparable weight of the [redacted] Light Table and present [redacted] 918 Light Table. 25X1

25X1

7) Provision for a manual spooling capability. If a handle is used, it should be detachable during normal, motorized operation.

b) Those characteristics of the table that are to be improved or modified are:

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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1) The Light shade should provide a sharp line of demarcation between the illuminated area and the masked area. It does not at present. There is a transition area from light to dark extending for approximately two inches which is undesirable.

2) The light intensity is not adequate. The specifications, forwarded to [redacted] prior to production of their prototype 918 Light Table, stated a minimum requirement of a 2000 foot/Lambert design goal. These specifications should be provided to [redacted] to allow a similar capability in their table. 25X1 25X1

3) There is no provision for accommodating 1000 foot spools on the table. Approximately 20% of the tactical missions exploited are received on 1000 foot spools. The amount of film on these spools makes them much heavier than the usual mission film and will result in the instability of the table.

4) There is a distinct noise (hum), in the light grid that was not considered too serious. When more than one table is used in a room however, the noise will become quite bothersome. This should be eliminated.

5) A positive locking device should be provided to lock the table in the tilted position. The present locking device was difficult to operate and the user did not have the confidence in its locking capability. There is concern about the possibility of a hand or arm injury when tilting the table top.

6) No handle was provided for raising and lowering the table top to and from the tilted position. This should be provided and a shield added to the underside of the top to prevent one's fingers getting caught between the base and top.

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25X1 3. [redacted] table should be modified, if the manufacturer is capable and willing, to allow comparison of his table with that to be produced by [redacted] The design specifications 25X1 of the [redacted] table should also be changed to provide a capa- 25X1 bility for handling 1000 foot spools of film.

[redacted] 25X1

Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group
NPIC

Distribution:
Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - NPIC/TSSG/DED [redacted] 25X1
1 - NPIC/IEG/OSS